MARVEL COMICS
RAVAGE 2099
HOW CAN ONE MAN HOPE TO WIN--
--AGAINST THE MIGHTY MUTROIDS?
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2099

THE MARK OF THE MUTROID!

MY BODY FEELS LIKE IT'S ON FIRE! I BEEN BREATHIN' TOXIC AIR MORE THAN SIXTY MINUTES!
ONLY TWO THINGS LEFT T'HAPPEN! EITHER THE RADIATION'LL KILL ME--OR CHANGE ME TO A MUTROID!
GREAT CHOICE!
THEY'RE STILL CHASIN' ME! BUT IN THE TIME I GOT LEFT, HELLROCK'LL WISH THEY NEVER HEARD THE NAME RAVAGE!
RAVAGE CREATED BY STAN LEE & PAUL RYAN.

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I FOUND YOU FIRST!
THE KILL IS MINE! IT IS DETHSTRYK'S LAW!
--AND CHEATS ME OF MY VICTORY!
YOU MUST DIE BY MY HAND--
BEFORE THE RADIATION KILLS YOU--
YA SHOULDN'TA SAID THAT, BIRD BEAK!
NOW YA WENT 'N GOT ME MAD!
ZISK!
LISTEN! GUNFIRE!

I FOUND YOU FIRST!
THE KILL IS MINE! IT IS DETHSTRYK'S LAW!
YOU WANT ME? COME GET ME! THAT'S RAVAGE'S LAW!
YOU MUST DIE BY MY HAND--
BEFORE THE RADIATION KILLS YOU--
--AND CHEATS ME OF MY VICTORY!
AIN'T NO OVER-GROWN PARAKEET USIN' ME T'SCORE HIS BROWNIE POINTS!
YOU ARE ONLY THE FIRST!
SOON THE WHOLE HUMAN RACE WILL MEET YOUR FATE!
YA SHOULDN'TA SAID THAT, BIRD BEAK!
NOW YA WENT 'N GOT ME MAD!
ZISK!
LISTEN! GUNFIRE!
IT'S THE HUMAN! HE'S JUST AHEAD!
MY BONES--HURT LIKE THEY'RE TWISTIN' IN-SIDE O'ME! MUST BE THE RADIATION!
SO WHAT! CAN'T KNUCKLE UNDER NOW! THERE'S MORE 'TROIDS COMIN'!

YOU WANT ME? COME GET ME! THAT'S RAVAGE'S LAW!
AIN'T NO OVER-GROWN PARAKEET USIN' ME T'SCORE HIS BROWNIE POINTS!
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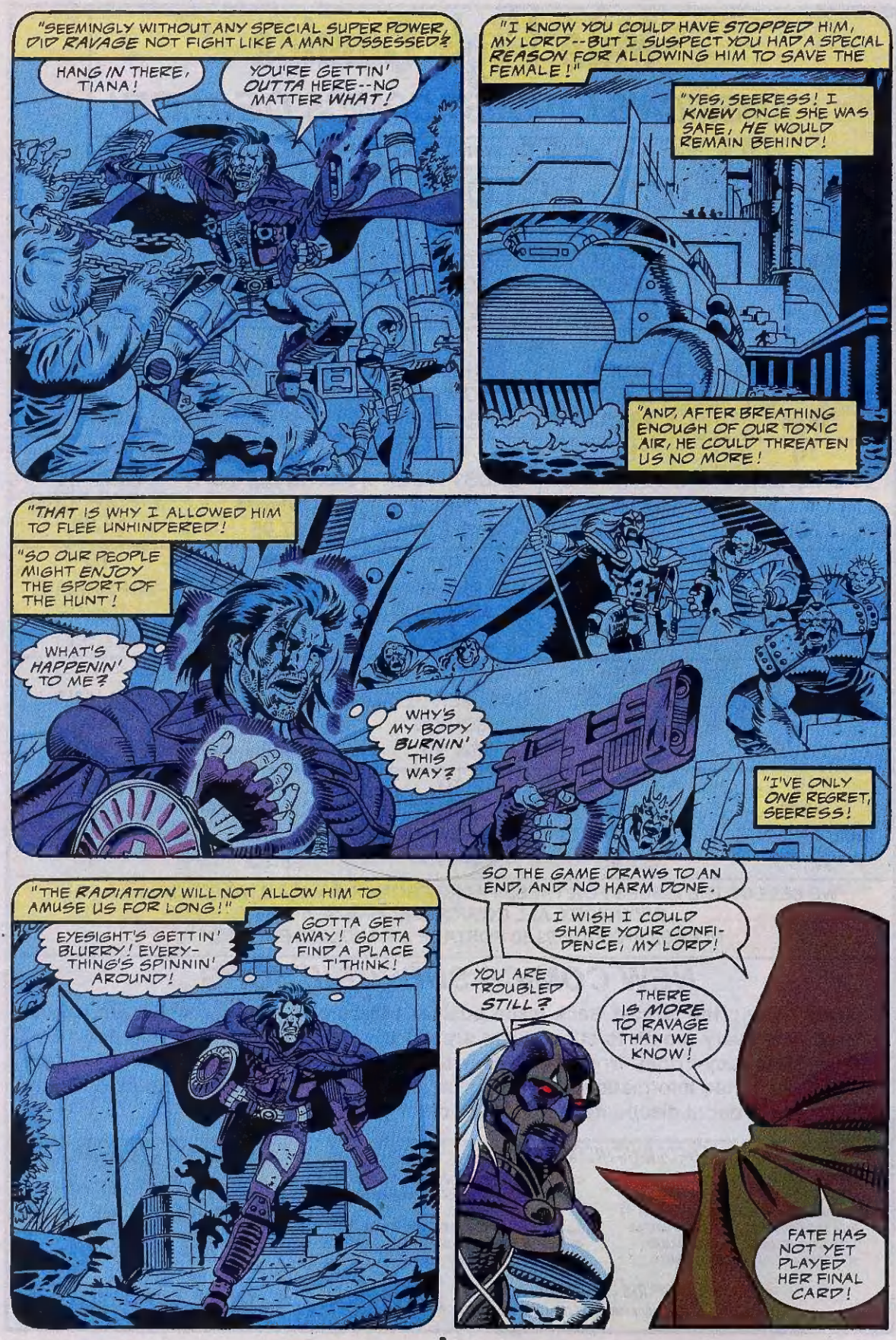
SO WHAT! CAN'T KNUCKLE UNDER NOW! THERE'S MORE 'TROIDS COMIN'!

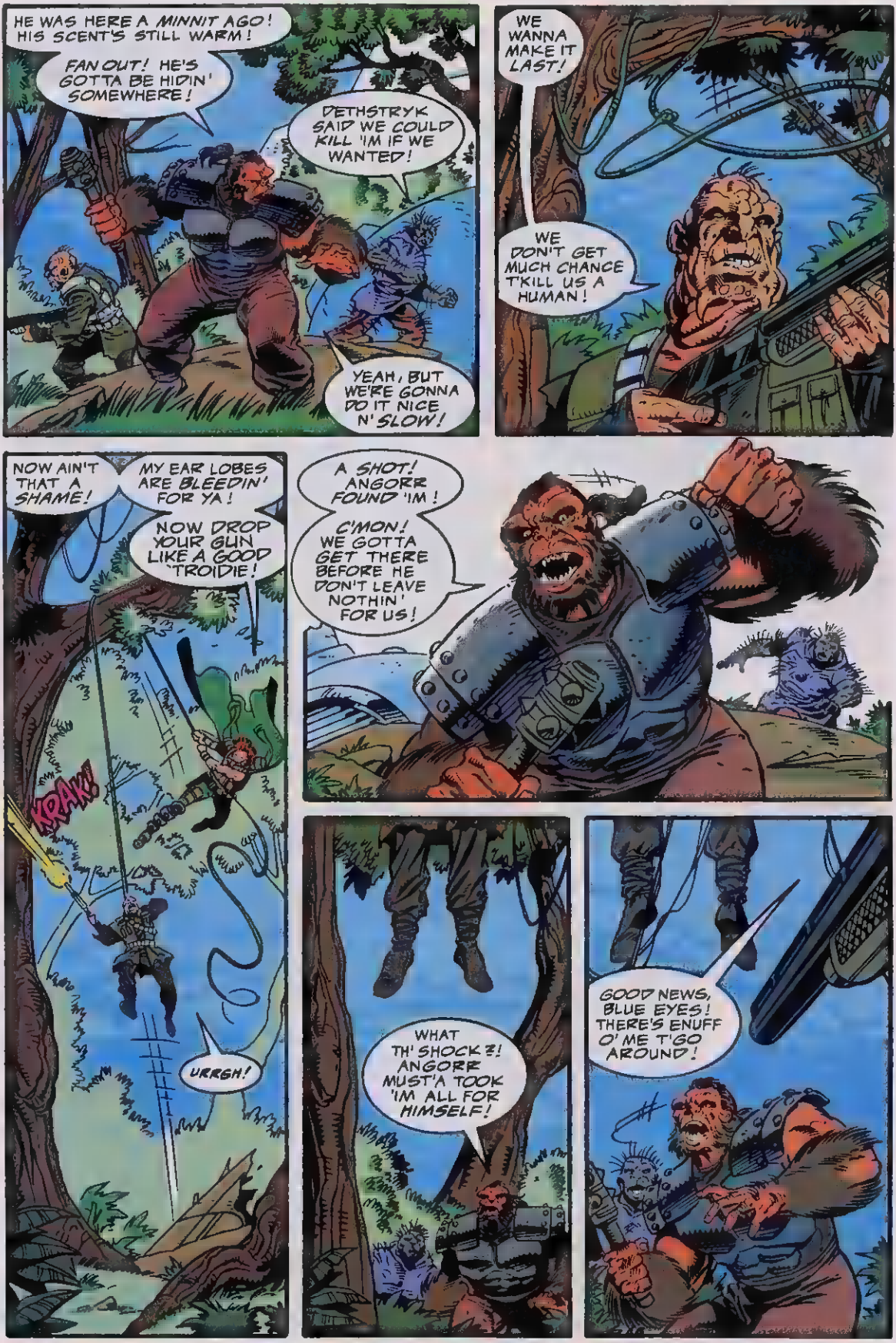
THERE HE GOES! HE'S MINE!
NO! HE BELONGS TO THE ONE WHO KILLS HIM!
I'M BEGINNIN' T'FEEL LIKE A SHOCKIN' TROPHY!
MEBBE I OUGHTTA LET 'EM GET ME!
ANYTHING'S BETTER THAN THIS PAIN IN MY GUT!
NO! CAN'T LET 'EM THINK ANY HUMAN'S A PUSH-OVER!
HELLROCK'S LIKE A BIG, JUNGLE JUNK-YARD--LOADED WITH INDUSTRIAL GARBAGE!
THEY'RE RIGHT BELOW ME!
HERE'S WHERE THAT GARBAGE COMES IN HANDY!
GOTTA KEEP PUSHIN'! NEVER MIND THE PAIN! NEVER MIND ANYTHING-- JUST PUSH!
RED-HOT POKERS INSIDE MY BRAIN--STABBIN', POUNDIN', TRYIN' T'GET OUT!
MY GUT'S ON FIRE! FERGET IT! DON'T THINK! DON'T FEEL! JUST PUSH!

I DID IT! THAT'LL SLOW 'EM LONG ENOUGH T'GIVE ME TIME TO-- TO-- WHAT?
I'M JUST FIGHTIN' OUTTA FORCE OF HABIT--
--TILL THE RADIATION ENDS IT FOR ME!
IS RAVAGE STILL AT LARGE, MY LORD?
WHAT DOES IT MATTER? HE HAS BEEN EXPOSED TO ENOUGH RADIATION TO KILL HIM--
--OR TRANSFORM HIM INTO ANOTHER OF MY MUTROID SLAVES!
THAT IS TRUE, MY LORD, AND YET--
SPEAK, SEERESS! OF ALL ON HELLROCK, YOU ALONE HAVE THE RIGHT TO QUESTION MY JUDGMENT!
WHEN THE VEIL OF THE FUTURE IS LIFTED FOR ME, I SEE MANY THINGS CLEARLY...
"AND YET, MY LORD, HIS EXISTENCE TROUBLES ME! REMEMBER WHEN FIRST WE SAW HIM?
WITHOUT HER PROTECTIVE HELMET, THE GIRL CANNOT BE SAVED!
NOOO!
"THOUGH HE COULD HAVE REMAINED SAFELY HIDDEN, REMEMBER HOW HE SNATCHED THE FEMALE FROM YOU?
IT'S HOPELESS! WHY THROW YOUR LIFE AWAY, TOO?
HEY, IT AIN'T OVER TILL THE FAT MUTROID SQUAWKS!
BUT THE SPECTER OF RAVAGE IS EVER BLURRED, EVER DIM-- EVER THREATENING!
IMPOSSIBLE! HE IS BUT ONE MORTAL MAN, WITH NO MUTROID POWER, DOOMED BY THE RADIATION ON HELLROCK!


"SEEMINGLY WITHOUT ANY SPECIAL SUPER POWER, DID RAVAGE NOT FIGHT LIKE A MAN POSSESSED?
HANG IN THERE, TIANA!
YOU'RE GETTIN' OUTTA HERE--NO MATTER WHAT!
"I KNOW YOU COULD HAVE STOPPED HIM, MY LORD--BUT I SUSPECT YOU HAD A SPECIAL REASON FOR ALLOWING HIM TO SAVE THE FEMALE!"
"YES, SEERESS! I KNEW ONCE SHE WAS SAFE, HE WOULD REMAIN BEHIND!
"AND, AFTER BREATHING ENOUGH OF OUR TOXIC AIR, HE COULD THREATEN US NO MORE!
"THAT IS WHY I ALLOWED HIM TO FLEE UNHINDERED!
"SO OUR PEOPLE MIGHT ENJOY THE SPORT OF THE HUNT!
WHAT'S HAPPENIN' TO ME?
WHY'S MY BODY BURNIN' THIS WAY?
"I'VE ONLY ONE REGRET, SEERESS!
"THE RADIATION WILL NOT ALLOW HIM TO AMUSE US FOR LONG!"
EYESIGHT'S GETTIN' BLURRY! EVERY-THING'S SPINNIN' AROUND!
GOTTA GET AWAY! GOTTA FIND A PLACE T'THINK!
SO THE GAME DRAWS TO AN END, AND NO HARM DONE.
I WISH I COULD SHARE YOUR CONFI-DENCE, MY LORD!
YOU ARE TROUBLED STILL?
THERE IS MORE TO RAVAGE THAN WE KNOW!
FATE HAS NOT YET PLAYED HER FINAL CARD!

I SEE HIM! HE'S MINE!
NO! I CLAIM FIRST KILL!
HE CRUSHED MY BROTHER! I WANT HIS BLOOD!
GRRREAT! I'M OUTTA AMMO!
IF NOT FOR MY KEVLAR-LINED COAT, THERE'D BE ENUFF PIECES OF ME FOR ALL OF 'EM!
MY HEAD'S SPINNIN', EYES BLURRIN' AND MY BODY'S BURNIN'!
ON TOP O'THAT, I GOT NO BLASTER T'SHOOT WITH!
AN ICE CUBE IN A FURNACE WOULD HAVE A BETTER CHANCE THAN ME!
IF I HAD ANY BRAINS, I'D JUST CASH IT IN!
CAN'T DIE MORE THAN ONCE!
BUT IF I HAD ANY BRAINS, I WOULDN'T BE HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE!
SAW A GUY DO THIS IN AN OLD MOVIE ONCE!
IT SURE AS SHOCK LOOKED EASIER UP THERE ON THE SCREEN!
OOWWW! BLASTED RADIATION! NOW MY LEGS ARE GOIN' BACK ON ME!

I'M PROBABLY THE ONLY NON-MUTROID WHO EVER LASTED THIS LONG ON HELL-ROCK!
SOME SHOCKIN' BIG DEAL!
A HUMAN! HE'S FOUND MY HIDING PLA--!
NO! HE IS OBLIVIOUS TO MY PRESENCE!
BUT THEN, WHY--?
RUNNIN' DON'T MAKE MUCH SENSE WHEN YA DON'T KNOW WHERE YER HEADED!
BUT IT'S BETTER'N STANDIN' STILL!
ANYWAY, JUDGIN' BY HOW MY LEGS FEEL, I BETTER RUN WHILE I CAN--'CAUSE THEY AIN'T GONNA HOLD ME UP MUCH LONGER!
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS T'ME NOW--IT WUZ WORTH IT, 'CAUSE TIANA'S SAFE!
BUT I GOTTA STAY ALIVE LONG ENOUGH T'WARN ALCHEMAX THAT DETHSTRYK'S DEADLIER THAN ANYONE SUSPECTS!
WE THOUGHT HIM AND HIS KILLER MUTROIDS WERE STUCK ON HELL-ROCK FOREVER--
BUT HE'S COOKIN' UP AN INVASION AND--
PUT A LID ON THE DAY-DREAMIN', RAVAGE!
THEM FOOTSTEPS BACK THERE AIN'T EXACTLY THE WELCOME WAGON!
BUT WHEN I'M DONE WITH 'EM, THEY'LL BE SORRY THEY AIN'T!


HE WAS HERE A MINNIT AGO! HIS SCENT'S STILL WARM!
FAN OUT! HE'S GOTTA BE HIDIN' SOMEWHERE!
DETHSTRYK SAID WE COULD KILL 'IM IF WE WANTED!
YEAH, BUT WE'RE GONNA DO IT NICE N' SLOW!
WE WANNA MAKE IT LAST!
WE DON'T GET MUCH CHANCE T'KILL US A HUMAN!
NOW AIN'T THAT A SHAME!
MY EAR LOBES ARE BLEEDIN' FOR YA!
NOW DROP YOUR GUN LIKE A GOOD 'TROIDIE!
KRAK!
URRGH!
A SHOT! ANGORR FOUND 'IM!
C'MON! WE GOTTA GET THERE BEFORE HE DON'T LEAVE NOTHIN' FOR US!
WHAT TH' SHOCK?! ANGORR MUST'A TOOK 'IM ALL FOR HIMSELF!
GOOD NEWS, BLUE EYES! THERE'S ENUFF O' ME T'GO AROUND!

BULLPEN BULLETINS

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Hi, Heroes!

This is a very solemn moment for me, and I know it will [illegible] for you, too. You see, since this is Marvel's 30th Anniversary, our [illegible] staff felt now would be the perfect time to present one of the most momentous documents we've [illegible] printed! Think of this as Marvel's New Year's gift to you — and to all mankind!

The Marvel Readers' Bill of Rights

Preamble

All Marvelites are created equal. Your Bullpen [illegible] favor [illegible] group of readers over another. Therefore, [illegible] and every one of you is irrevocably granted these inalienable rights:

1 The right to an unlimited variety of reading entertainment.

2 The right to carefully-crafted stories that give you [illegible] fighting chance to understand what's going on when you plunk down your money.

3 The right to comment about every Marvel [illegible] you read and to know that each of our editors values your opinion.

4 The right to buy only the [illegible] that interest you, and to shun any title that fails to entertain you.

5 The right to fearlessly assemble in public to discuss Marvel's comics, characters, and creators.

6 The right to address [illegible] Marvel editors and creative people by their first names.

7 The right to be told what is currently happening in Marvel's mags and what is being planned for the future.

8 The right to practice scripting and drawing [illegible] Marvel characters for your own pleasure and amusement.

9 The right to submit your best work to Marvel for consideration and know that the time and talent you have invested will be given the attention it deserves.

10 The right to expect Marvel always to maintain a dedication to quality, [illegible] commitment to decency, and [illegible] of humor about everything we do.

So be it! No [illegible] words of mine can add to the glory and grandeur of those ten immortal declarations, those ten pillars of wisdom which shall inspire the mighty world of Marvel now and evermore!

Excelsior!

Stan Lee

It's the beginning of a new year, and you know what that [illegible] — time to double the Marvel line again! These days, we've got more titles than [illegible] before. We asked the Marvel editors what they're most excited about for '93. Here's what they had to say ...!

Hildy Mesnik: "The MIDNIGHT SONS UNLIMITED. We've got some fabulous creators working on this book, including **Klaus Janson, Joe Quesada, [illegible] Mackie, D.G. Chichester, John [illegible] Jr., Mark Texeira, Bill Sienkiewicz**, and **Gene Colan!**"

THE BULL'S EYE
by Barry Dutter & Rick Parker
[illegible] YEARS AGO, OUR [illegible] BROUGHT FORTH UPON THIS COMPANY...
GREAT IDEA, EH, TOM?
EH--! MAYBE I'LL DECLARE MY INDEPENDENCE!

Don Daley: "I'm excited about new penciler **Kelly Krantz** on SLEEPWALKER ... I'm blown away by **McKone** and **McKenna** on PUNISHER WAR ZONE ... **Eliot R. [illegible]** has totally surpassed himself on PUNISHER ARMORY #6 ... We've got [illegible] coming back to do [illegible] stuff for THE 'NAM ..."

[illegible] Javins: "TOR is cool because it's **Joe Kubert.** It's all-new stuff, with savage, primitive, mean dinosaurs. LANCE BARNES, POST-NUKE DICK is just totally cool. It's about [illegible] detective who travels around with his one-legged secretary named Peg, fighting vigilantes who dress up like dogs. It's by [illegible] **Petrucha** and **Barry Crain**, and it's out this spring."

Marcus McLaurin: "The Barkerverse. It's four titles that are going to rip the lid off of comics next summer: ECTOKID, HYPERKIND, SAINT SINNER, and HOKUM AND HEX."

Nel Yomtov: "It's got to be the 30th anniversary of Iron Man. He's got [illegible] new suit of armor beginning this month. Tony Stark is back and he comes back to full-strength in issue #300, with another new suit and [illegible] holo-cover. Rhodey will keep the War Machine armor."

Bob Harras: "We've got so much good stuff — DEADPOOL, CABLE, SABRETOOTH ... But the big news is the 30th anniversary of the X-MEN. As much excitement as Nel feels about Iron Man, I feel [illegible] quantum leap above that for the X-Men!"

Bobbie Chase: "In June [illegible] have the Midnight Sons crossover blow-out, which is tentatively called "All Hell Breaks Loose." This will be in all five Midnight Sons books. I'm also very excited about the new art team on the HULK, **Gary Frank** and **Cam Smith**, with good ol' **Peter David** staying aboard [illegible] writer."

Mort Todd: "I'm doing [illegible] adaptation of THE SCREWTAPE LETTERS, which is [illegible] really good story written by **C.S. Lewis**, the fantasy writer. I've got [illegible] new line of true crime and horror comics starting up. Mostly I'm just excited about actually getting some titles out!"

Joey [illegible] "I'm most excited about MOON KNIGHT. We're totally changing the book. Wait til you get a load of the things **James Fry** and **Chris Ivy** [illegible] doing in that book! I'm also excited about the new 2099 UNLIMITED book — it offers a tremendous wealth of possibilities for creators to cut loose and explore the 2099 Universe."

Rob Tokar: "I'm excited about the super powers registration act storyline in ALPHA FLIGHT. This is where Canada passes the super hero registration act that didn't pass in 'Acts of Vengeance,' and Alpha Flight is caught in the middle of this controversy."

Fabian Nicieza: "FIGHT MAN by [illegible] **Dorkin**, coming out in March. It's super hero antics to the nth degree. It's a one-shot. Why? Because one shot is [illegible] he needs."

More editors and more excitement next week!

HYPELINE: ON SALE THIS WEEK

- **ALPHA FLIGHT #118:** Nobody fights forever against ... Thunderball!
- **[illegible] #375:** 64-page holo-grafx metallic cover Spidey/Venom super-saga! Celebrating the [illegible] versary of AMAZING SPIDEY #1!
- **[illegible]** Barbie hunts a stolen pin, and Skipper confronts dognappers! They're Marvel's newest crimefighting sensations!
- **DARKHOLD #6:** Dr.Strange and Mordred duke it out for the mystical title!
- **[illegible]** Guest-starring the X-Men against Wraithchilde!
- **GHOST RIDER #35:** Heart Attack places Ghost Rider under cardiac arrest!
- **GROO THE WANDERER** Concluding the three-part "Wager of the Gods!"
- **GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY** Has Charlie-27's number finally come up?
- **PENDRAGON 2 #9:** It really is part of the Marvel Universe! Featuring Spider-Man!
- **QUASAR #44:** No P's — just Q's, Quasar battles Quagmire!
- **[illegible] #4:** Trapped on Hellrock! Written by the [illegible] Lee of 2099!
- **[illegible] SWORD OF [illegible] #207:** Conan and the Spider God, Part One! With [illegible] cover by Mike Kaluta!
- **SECRET DEFENDERS #1:** The secret [illegible] out! Dr.Strange gathers Nomad, Darkhawk, Spider-Woman, and Wolverine to [illegible] deadly new foe!
- **[illegible] #2 OF 4:** With Ghost Rider! A U.S. guest [illegible] in a U.K. book — what [illegible] the odds?
- **SILVER [illegible] #10:** Sable and the Punisher [illegible] fishing for Leviathan!
- **[illegible]** Part four of "Mindfield!" With Hobgoblin and 8-Ball!
- **[illegible] OF SUSPENSE** [illegible] Reprinting Iron Man's very first appearance!
- **WOLVERINE** [illegible] Wolvie relives his final spy mission in [illegible] issue that's for your eyes only!
- **[illegible] #19:** With more villains than you can shake [illegible] popsicle stick [illegible]
- **[illegible] ADVENTURES #5:** The Morlocks kidnap Cyclops! It's Saturday morning excitement, but you can read it any time!

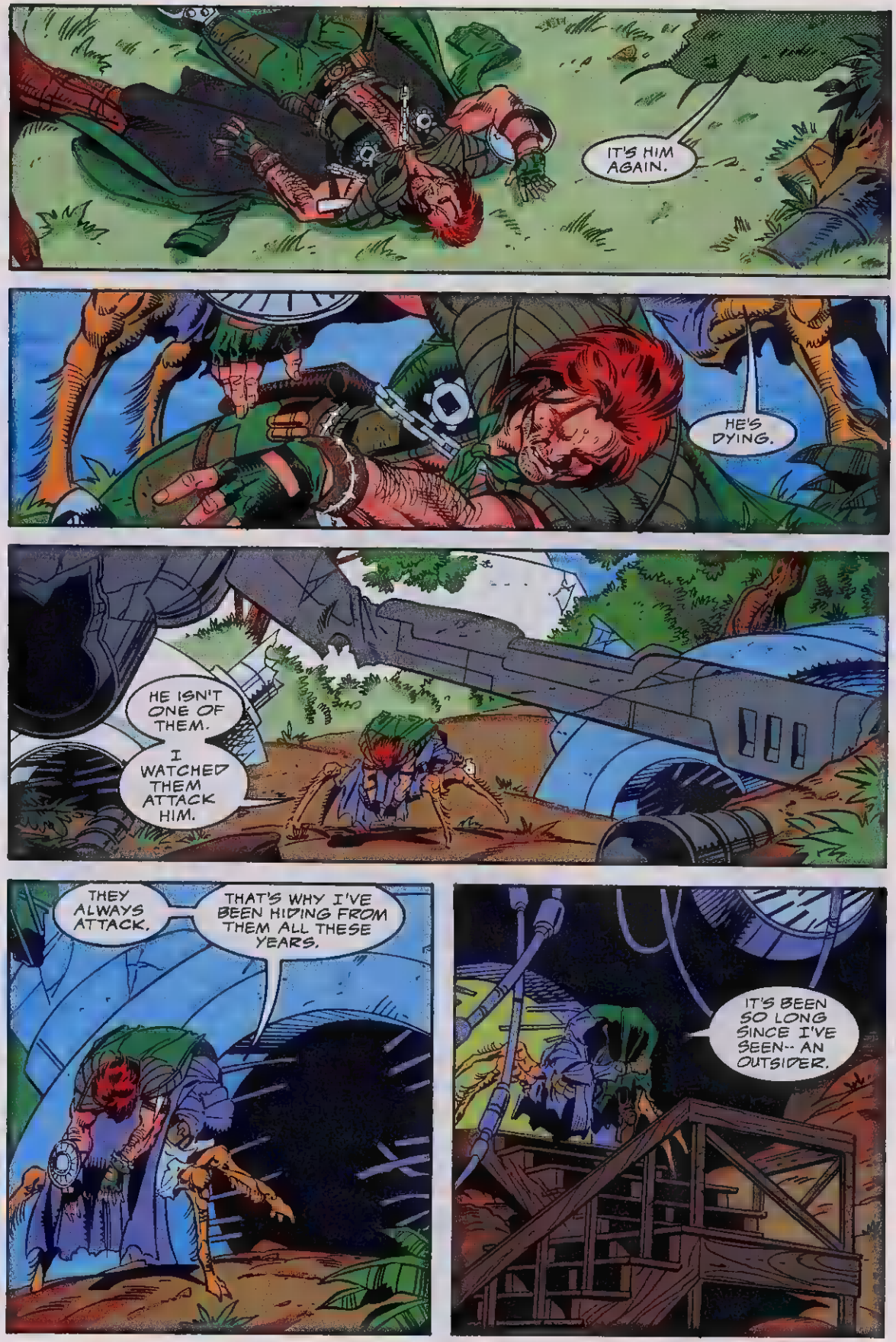
SUPERCLUSTER STRIP-MINING THE INDUSTRY BULLPEN [illegible] BLATHER BOTULIN DIFFERENCE ENGINE UNPRECEDENTED

HERE'S A LITTLE MESSAGE YA CAN GIVE T'DETHSTRYK FOR ME!
I'D DELIVER IT PERSONAL IF HE WUZN'T TOO YELLA T'TACKLE ME HIM-SELF!
NO HUMAN CAN BEAT A MUTROID!
WHAT D'YA DO, MAKE UP THEM RULES AS YA GO ALONG?
HEY! YER BREATHIN' ON ME!
JUST MY LUCK! YER BRAIN'S TOO STUPID T'KNOW I JUST SHOT YA DEAD!
MY MUTROID POWER IS IN MY CHEST! NO BLAST CAN PENETRATE IT!
NOW YA TELL ME?
HE'S MINE! HE'S MINE! I CLAIM HIS BODY!
TAKE A FLYIN' FLING FOR YERSELF, TILL I FIND SOME 'OTHER SPOT T'ZING YA!
I'LL WIN IT BY RELEASING MY POISON QUILLS!

FER THE LUVVA SHOCK-- A HUMAN PORCUPINE!
AWRIGHT! SINCE I FIGGER I'M DEAD MEAT ANYWAY...
I MIGHT AS WELL GO OUT BIG!
YA DIDN'T THINK I WORE ALL THIS JUNK-YARD ARMOR FER SHOW, DIDJA?
YA LIKE SHOOTIN' QUILLS?
THEN THIS'LL BE YER BIGGEST THRILL!
YOU'RE MINE!
YOU DID ME A FAVOR, HUMAN!
YOU DOWNED THE OTHERS, SO I GET YOU ALL TO MYSELF!
FERGET IT, MISTER! I'M TOO YOUNG T'GO STEADY!
HOW FRAIL AND WEAK YOU HUMANS ARE! THAT'S WHY WE MUST DESTROY YOU!

NOW LOOK WHATCHA DID! YA SPURRED ME INTA ACTION!
ZIK!
ARGHH!
FOR THAT I'LL MAKE YOU PRAY FOR DEATH!
LOOSEN UP, DUMBO! YOU DON'T EVEN TALK A GOOD FIGHT!
I GOTTA GOAD 'IM INTO KILLIN' ME FAST!
CAN'T TAKE THE PAIN MUCH LONGER!
THE HOUR'S ALMOST UP! MY WHOLE BODY'S BURNIN'!
WHAT'RE YA WAITIN' FOR, SLIME-FACE? AFRAID I'LL FIGHT YA BACK?
MUTROIDS ARE AFRAID OF NOTHING!
ONLY HUMANS KNOW FEAR!
THIS IS IT! CAN'T HOLD OUT MUCH LONGER!
BUT NO WAY THIS MISBEGOTTEN CRETIN'S GONNA GLOAT OVER KILLIN' ME!

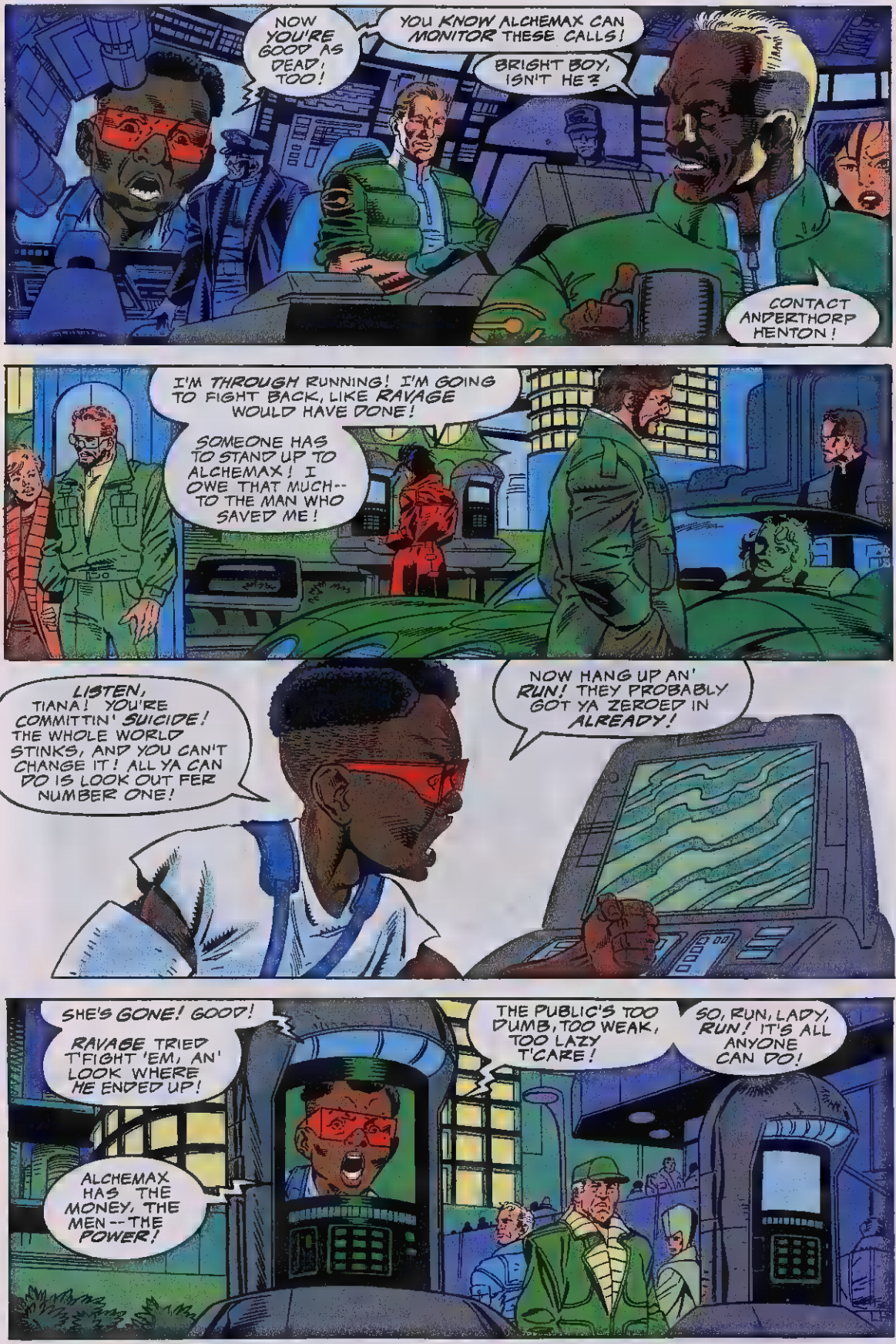
NICE OF YOU TO LEMME KNOW IT'S YER CHEST THAT'S BLAST-PROOF!
HERE, CHEW ON THIS FER A WHILE!
URGHH
FACE IT, RAVAGE -- THAT WUZ YER LAST HURRAH!
YER HEAD'S BURNIN' -- YER THROAT'S RAW --
YER BONES FEEL LIKE THEY'RE TURNIN' T'MUSH...
IT'S LIKE -- SOME SHOCKIN' ANIMAL -- DRAGGIN' ITSELF BACK TO ITS LAIR -- TO DIE!
'CEPT ANY ANIMAL'S GOT IT BETTER'N ME --
I AIN'T GOT A LAIR!
NOTHIN' LEFT BUT -- RADIATION -- EATIN' OUT M'GUTS!
BUT I GOTTA KEEP MOVIN'! GOTTA FIND A WAY!
CAN'T CASH IN -- WITHOUT WARNIN' ALCHEMAX!
CAN'T -- LET THE POLLUTION -- BEAT ME!
GOTTA BE -- STRONG! GOTTA THINK -- OF SOME -- OF SOME --
UNHHH

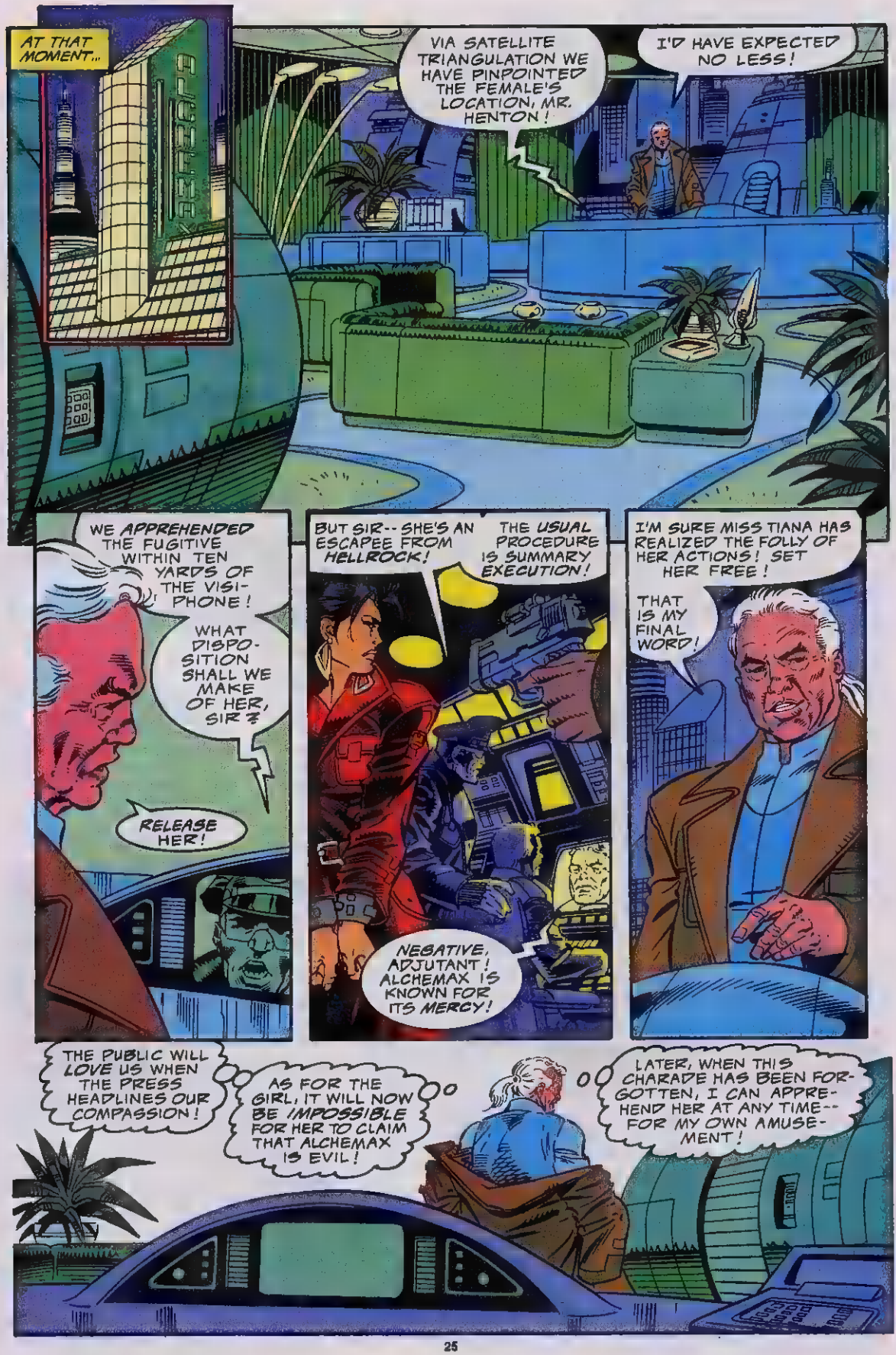

IT'S HIM AGAIN.
HE'S DYING.
HE ISN'T ONE OF THEM.
I WATCHED THEM ATTACK HIM.
THEY ALWAYS ATTACK.
THAT'S WHY I'VE BEEN HIDING FROM THEM ALL THESE YEARS.
IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE I'VE SEEN-- AN OUTSIDER.

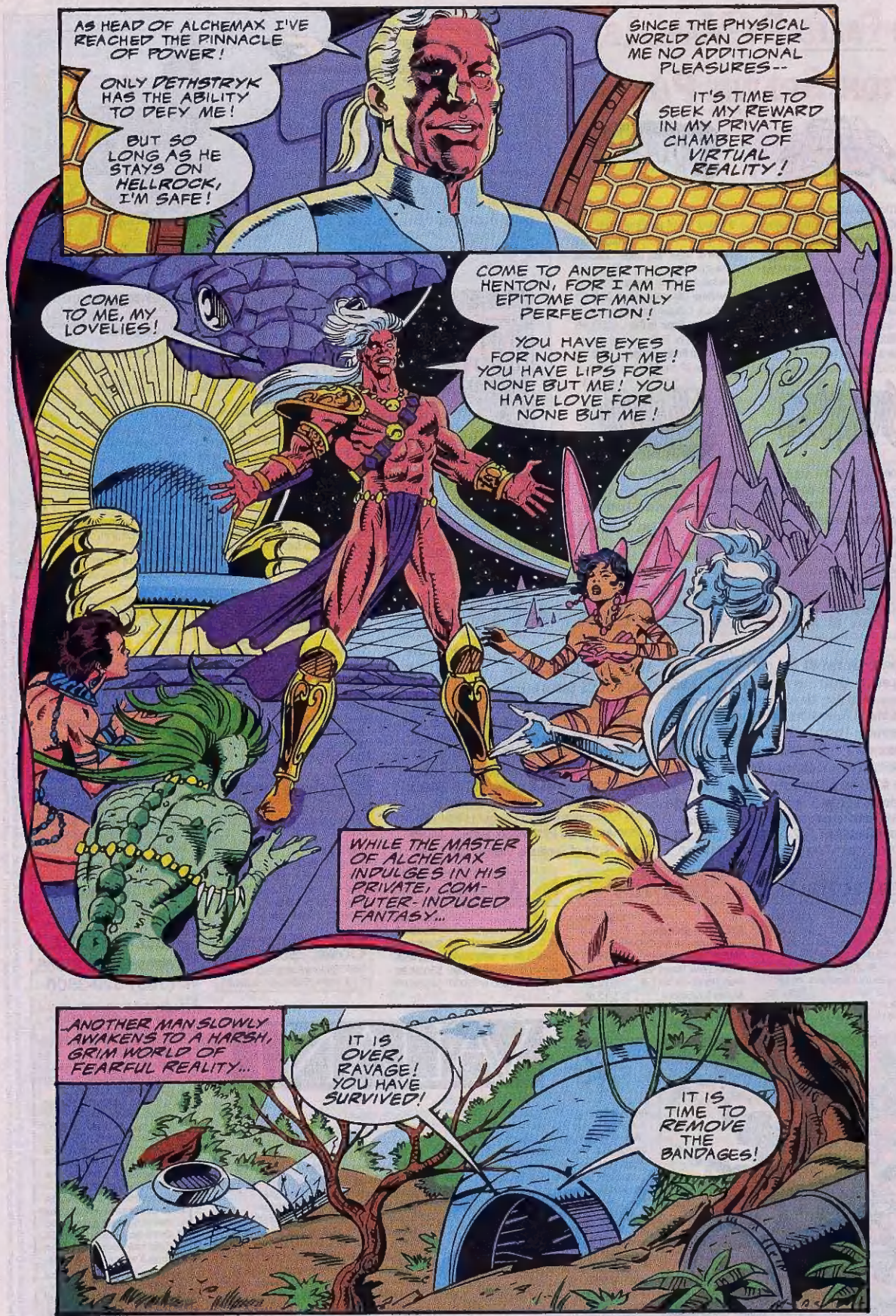
HIS BREATH IS WEAK-- BUT HE'S BREATHING.
PERHAPS THERE'S STILL A CHANCE.
CAN YOU HEAR ME?
I AM-- OR WAS--URSELL, A GENETIC SCIENTIST.
THE RADIATION HAS NOT YET TOTALLY CLAIMED YOU.
JUST-- WHAT I NEED--
A SHOCKIN'-- HALLUCINATION!

YOU ARE NOT HALLUCINATING.
I WAS ONCE HUMAN--LIKE YOU.
I'VE SPENT MY LIFE SEEKING A WAY TO DESTROY DETHSTRYK...
...THE GREATEST THREAT MANKIND HAS EVER KNOWN!
I AM OLD AND CLOSE TO DEATH MYSELF!
BUT YOU--YOU ARE YOUNG, STRONG.
FATE MUST HAVE SENT YOU TO ME.
YER BRAIN'S--IN YER--EAR!
CAN'TCHA SEE--I'M--I'M--
IT'S JUST AS WELL. THERE'S NO TIME FOR TALK.
I MUST FIND A WAY TO ALTER HIS GENES.
IT'S TOO LATE TO STOP THE RADIATION FROM AFFECTING HIM--
BUT I MIGHT PREVENT IT FROM KILLING HIM.
THE ONLY THING I CANNOT PREDICT IS--
WHAT WILL HE TURN INTO?

MEANWHILE, ONE THOUSAND MILES AWAY...
I CAN'T STAY IN HIDING FOR-EVER, LIKE SOME SCARED, BLOODLESS CHICKEN!
COME ON, DACK, GET A MOVE ON, BOY! ANSWER THE PHONE!
ANGEL OF MERCY MEN CENTER
VISIT PARKIN
WHO THE SHOCK WOULD BE CALLIN' ME IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT?
--OR ANY-TIME!"
NOBODY EVEN KNOWS THEY GOT ME COOPED UP IN THE HOSPITAL, 'CEPT--
TIANA! WHERE ARE YA? HOW'D YOU BUST OUTTA HELLROCK?
IT WAS RAVAGE--HE DID IT--BUT HE STAYED BEHIND!
YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS? HE'S A DEAD MAN BY NOW!
SHOCK ALCHEMY
MINOLTA
SONY
RITA


NOW YOU'RE GOOD AS DEAD, TOO!
YOU KNOW ALCHEMAX CAN MONITOR THESE CALLS!
BRIGHT BOY, ISN'T HE?
CONTACT ANDERTHORP HENTON!
I'M THROUGH RUNNING! I'M GOING TO FIGHT BACK, LIKE RAVAGE WOULD HAVE DONE!
SOMEONE HAS TO STAND UP TO ALCHEMAX! I OWE THAT MUCH-- TO THE MAN WHO SAVED ME!
LISTEN, TIANA! YOU'RE COMMITTIN' SUICIDE! THE WHOLE WORLD STINKS, AND YOU CAN'T CHANGE IT! ALL YA CAN DO IS LOOK OUT FER NUMBER ONE!
NOW HANG UP AN' RUN! THEY PROBABLY GOT YA ZEROED IN ALREADY!
SHE'S GONE! GOOD!
RAVAGE TRIED T'FIGHT 'EM, AN' LOOK WHERE HE ENDED UP!
ALCHEMAX HAS THE MONEY, THE MEN -- THE POWER!
THE PUBLIC'S TOO DUMB, TOO WEAK, TOO LAZY T'CARE!
SO, RUN, LADY, RUN! IT'S ALL ANYONE CAN DO!


AT THAT MOMENT...
ALCHEMAX
VIA SATELLITE TRIANGULATION WE HAVE PINPOINTED THE FEMALE'S LOCATION, MR. HENTON!
I'D HAVE EXPECTED NO LESS!
WE APPREHENDED THE FUGITIVE WITHIN TEN YARDS OF THE VISI-PHONE!
WHAT DISPO-SITION SHALL WE MAKE OF HER, SIR?
RELEASE HER!
BUT SIR-- SHE'S AN ESCAPEE FROM HELLROCK!
THE USUAL PROCEDURE IS SUMMARY EXECUTION!
NEGATIVE, ADJUTANT! ALCHEMAX IS KNOWN FOR ITS MERCY!
I'M SURE MISS TIANA HAS REALIZED THE FOLLY OF HER ACTIONS! SET HER FREE!
THAT IS MY FINAL WORD!
THE PUBLIC WILL LOVE US WHEN THE PRESS HEADLINES OUR COMPASSION!
AS FOR THE GIRL, IT WILL NOW BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR HER TO CLAIM THAT ALCHEMAX IS EVIL!
LATER, WHEN THIS CHARADE HAS BEEN FOR-GOTTEN, I CAN APPRE-HEND HER AT ANY TIME-- FOR MY OWN AMUSE-MENT!


AS HEAD OF ALCHEMAX I'VE REACHED THE PINNACLE OF POWER!
ONLY DETHSTRYK HAS THE ABILITY TO DEFY ME!
BUT SO LONG AS HE STAYS ON HELLROCK, I'M SAFE!
SINCE THE PHYSICAL WORLD CAN OFFER ME NO ADDITIONAL PLEASURES--
IT'S TIME TO SEEK MY REWARD IN MY PRIVATE CHAMBER OF VIRTUAL REALITY!
COME TO ME, MY LOVELIES!
COME TO ANDERTHORP HENTON, FOR I AM THE EPITOME OF MANLY PERFECTION!
YOU HAVE EYES FOR NONE BUT ME! YOU HAVE LIPS FOR NONE BUT ME! YOU HAVE LOVE FOR NONE BUT ME!
WHILE THE MASTER OF ALCHEMAX INDULGES IN HIS PRIVATE, COMPUTER-INDUCED FANTASY...
...ANOTHER MAN SLOWLY AWAKENS TO A HARSH, GRIM WORLD OF FEARFUL REALITY...
IT IS OVER, RAVAGE! YOU HAVE SURVIVED!
IT IS TIME TO REMOVE THE BANDAGES!

I DON'T GET IT! I'M ALIVE! HOW CAN THAT BE?
IT ALL HAS TO DO WITH YOUR GENES!
I WAS ABLE TO ALTER THEM--
TO NULLIFY THE FATAL EFFECT OF THE RADIATION!
BUT--IF YA ALTERED MY GENES--
THAT MEANS--YA CHANGED ME--SOMEHOW!
OF COURSE! IT WAS THE ONLY TRADE-OFF THAT WOULD SAVE YOUR LIFE!
BUT-- I FEEL TH' SAME!
I LOOK THE SAME!
THERE IS A CHANGE! BUT YOU MUST PREPARE--FOR THE SHOCK!
EASE OFF! YOU AIN'T TALKIN' TO A KID!
VERY WELL, THEN! REMOVE YOUR GLOVES! SLOWLY--CAREFULLY!
SOME CHANGE! WHAT'D YA DO--TRIM MY FINGERNAILS?
WHOEVER YA ARE, I OWE YA, MISTER--FER SAVIN' MY LIFE!

YES, RAVAGE, YOU OWE ME INDEED!
MORE THAN YOU CAN EVER KNOW!
MY HANDS!!
WHAT DIDJA DO T'ME?
WHAT DIDJA DO?!!
NEXT: "WITH THESE HANDS..!"

RANTS & RAVES

JOEY CAVALIERI — EDITOR
SARRA MOSSOFF — ASSISTANT EDITOR

c/o MARVEL COMICS, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10016

ALL LETTERS FOR PUBLICATION MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS. ALTHOUGH WE WILL GLADLY WITHHOLD THAT INFO

OUT OF MY HEAD

I talked, Stan talked. Now it's your turn.

Dear *Rants & Raves*,

I'm truly surprised.

I had no intention of picking up any of Marvel's new 2099 line, with the possible exception of DOOM, since from all indications they'd just be the New Universe titles redone with established characters—or a close facsimile thereof. This, combined with the fact I saw Peter David's reading in San Diego and really wasn't impressed with the first issue plot. But when it hit the stands, the owner of the local comic shop was nice enough to give me a copy of RAVAGE #1. The surprising thing is that I actually enjoyed it.

The basic concept isn't anything we haven't seen before, but the quality of both script and art more than makes up for anything the plot may lack in originality. Stan Lee is, without question, one of the greats. His work here is some of the best I've seen from him in years. The characterizations are strong throughout, and the dialogue's a far cry from the 60's Spider-Man, as it seems everyone was expecting. In this day of young, upstart, wannabe writers, it's nice to be able to pick up a good, well thought out, enjoyable title from a master of the medium.

Paul Ryan and Keith Williams turned out an enjoyable offering. They are to be commended.

Like I said, I'm truly surprised. You can bet I'll stick around.

Marson Fredrick
P.O. Box 514
Ellisville, MS 39437

Then we'll stick with ya, Marson!

Dear *Rants & Raves*,

After reading SPIDER-MAN 2099 I was amazed at how well it was done. When I first heard about the new 2099 titles I knew that Spidey would be a hit. I immediately reserved four copies at my local comic shop. I thought that it would be my favorite 2099 title. A month later I picked up RAVAGE 2099. After reading it, I quickly changed my mind about my favorite 2099 title. The quality of artwork and writing surpassed SPIDEY 2099 by a mile. I like the idea of new characters in the 2099 universe instead of just futuristic versions of old characters. The story in RAVAGE is terrific. That Dethstryk guy on the last page looks really cool. I also liked Ravage's appearance in MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #117. Will Ravage or any other 2099 characters be making guest appearances in MCP or any other Marvel mags? A good idea would be to create more original 2099 characters. You should give the X-MEN the 2099 treatment. Until Eco gives Ravage his old job back, Make Mine Marvel!

Louis Kaiser
764 Eagle Drive
North Woodmere, NY 11581

Yikes! Which is it, Louis, new characters or old?

Dear Ranters,

Thanks for bringing us RAVAGE 2099. This book is choice! I was lucky enough to get issue #1. There were only two copies on the shelves. I read and immediately liked this book. From the cover to the last page, it's one of the best books Marvel's put out. I like Ravage because he has integrity when his bosses are corrupt. He has a past that he doesn't quite like to remember. He doesn't hide behind high-tech gadgets. Tiana's also a good character. Don't kill her off!

Merritt R. Davis
P.O. Box 119
Long Pond, PA 18334

Tiana's not going anywhere, Merritt!

Dear Joey & Sarra,

Even though I only read issue #1, it's a winner. How long are you keeping RAVAGE 2099 on the racks? Any crossovers coming?

Give Ravage a gun. Why does Alchemax have so much power? Can't the U.S. government shut it down? What's Hellrock?

Corey Laude
134 Sheyenne St.
W. Fargo, ND 58078

RAVAGE will be around as long as you Marvelites clamor for it! You also seem to be clamoring for a crossover, so Stan's planning one! Hellrock? Keep readin'. And in 2099, corporations govern.

Dear *Rants & Raves*,

Spectacular! Awesome! RAVAGE is superb! I admit when I first heard about this title, I cringed. I wasn't a big fan of Stan Lee's writing, but RAVAGE completely turned me for a 180! I only bought it for the 2099 gimmick, but WOW! The story caught me! It was like reading a novel. You stated in SPIDER-MAN 2099 that a fifth book was on the way. How about Daredevil, Captain America, Ghost Rider, Venom (please!), or Iron Man. Until Spider-Man trims his claws, Make Mine Marvel!

Ronnie Nanney
(Address withheld by request)

Leave it to Stan to make a True Believer out of everyone!

Dear *Rants & Raves*,

I've really enjoyed the 2099 series, especially RAVAGE. Paul Ryan and Stan Lee have created a great new character! I love Ravage's attitude towards the enemy. Let's see Ravage handle Dethstryk like he does the others!

Justin Owens
Rt. 3, Box 598
Bessemer City, NC 28016

Stan 'n' Paul couldn't thank you more, Justin.

Dear Joey,

It's true: anything Stan Lee writes turns to gold and becomes an instant classic. At least that's the case with RAVAGE 2099 #1.

I had high expectations for this title and they were easily met. Stan has expanded upon the vision of the future that Peter David started in SPIDER-MAN 2099 and has done it with creativity. Ravage's personality and character have already been well defined in issue #1, as well as Alchemax's control over the world of 2099. Paul-Philip Ravage has already seen the light and will be instrumental in Alchemax's downfall.

I only have one fear: I read that Stan hasn't decided how long he can write RAVAGE. I don't care how, but Stan had better remain on this book. No writer can tell a story the way he does. The way Smilin' Stan leaves us cliff-hanging is superb, just like it was in his 1960's heyday. I have a feeling that Ravage will be the next big thing; who knows? I bet when Stan created Spidey in the early 1960's, he didn't think that the web-slinger would still be around today!

Paul Ryan also did a startling good job on pencils. While Keith Williams gave Paul's stuff a different feel than Dan Bulanadi's inks on the F.F., the art still proved breathtaking. Paul's landscape and backgrounds are great! Sometimes it isn't good to continually compliment everyone and everything, but this book deserves it. Stan Lee's return to comics says that Marvel 2099 isn't a cheap, promotional ploy. Something special is going on.

Joey Marchese
P.O. Box 2197
Union, NJ 07083

Something special is going on, Joey!

MORE OF MARVEL 2099

SPIDER-MAN 2099 #5 Spidey vs. the Specialist...and the Public Eye isn't picky about who wins!

DOOM 2099 #3 The most awe-inspiring issue yet! Trust us!

THE PUNISHER 2099 #2 "The Mourning After"...is almost as brutal as the murder before!